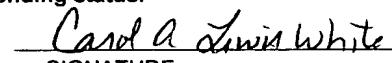


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| FORM PTO-1390 (Modified) U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (REV. 2-2005) | | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER FA/256 |
| TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 | | U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 107561887 |
| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP2004/006857 | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 24 June 2004 | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 27 June 2003 |
| TITLE OF INVENTION Welded Microseam | | |
| APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Martin Hottner | | |
| Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information: | | |
| <p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (24) indicated below.</p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto. b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).</p> <p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409).</p> <p>12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).</p> | | |
| Items 13 to 23 below concern document(s) or information included: | | |
| <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>15. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment.</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.</p> <p>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.</p> <p>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821 - 1.825.</p> <p>20. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>21. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Express Mail Label No. ED753851410US</p> <p>23. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information:</p> <p>PCT Publication No. WO 2005/000055 A1 CUSTOMER NO. 28596</p> | | |

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

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| U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5) | | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP2004/006857 | | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER FA/256 | |
| The following fees are submitted: | | | | CALCULATIONS PTO USE | |
| 24. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic national fee | | | | \$300 | \$300.00 |
| 25. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee If International preliminary examination report prepared by USPTO and all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4). All other situations. | | | | \$100 \$200 | \$200.00 |
| 26. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority International Search Report prepared and provided to the Office All other situations. | | | | \$100 \$400 \$500 | \$400.00 |
| TOTAL OF 24, 25 and 26 = | | | | \$900.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof. | | | | | |
| Total Sheets | Extra Sheets | Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole) | | RATE | |
| - 100 = | 0 /50 = | 0 | | x \$250.00 | \$0.00 |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)). | | | | \$ | |
| CLAIMS | NUMBER FILED | NUMBER EXTRA | RATE | | |
| Total claims | 69 - 20 = | 49 | x \$50.00 | \$ | \$2,450.00 |
| Independent claims | 3 - 3 = | 0 | x \$200.00 | \$ | \$0.00 |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | + \$360.00 | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = | | | | \$3,350.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2. | | | | \$0.00 | |
| SUBTOTAL = | | | | \$3,350.00 | |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)). | | | | \$0.00 | |
| TOTAL NATIONAL FEE = | | | | \$3,350.00 | |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40 per property + | | | | \$0.00 | |
| TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED = | | | | \$3,350.00 | |
| | | | | Amount to be | \$ |
| | | | | Amount to be | \$ |
| a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees is enclosed. | | | | | |
| b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. 07-1729 in the amount of \$3,350.00 to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. | | | | | |
| c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1729. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. | | | | | |
| d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. | | | | | |
| NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status. | | | | | |
| SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: Gore Enterprise Holdings, Inc. 551 Paper Mill Road P.O. Box 9206 Newark, DE 19714-9206 | | | | | |
|  SIGNATURE Carol A. Lewis White NAME 33,306 REGISTRATION NUMBER | | | | | |

IAP4 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 DEC 2005

10/561887

CUSTOMER NO. 28596
Attorney Docket No. FA/256

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 21, 2005, with an Express Mail Label, bearing the number ED753851410US.

Darlene S. McGrath

December 21, 2005

(date of mailing document)

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Dear Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the U. S. Patent and
Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified Patent Application:

1. Transmittal Letter to the U.S. Designated/Elected Office Concerning a Submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 (2 pages);
 2. Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail" (1 page);
 3. Preliminary Amendment (10 pages);
 4. International Search Report (2 pages);
 5. PCT Publication No. WO 2005/000055 A1
 6. Formal Drawings (Figs. 1-17) (10 pages).

**THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED AND IS
REQUESTED TO CHARGE ALL FILING FEES DUE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.16
AND ALL OTHER FEES DUE UNDER SECTION 1.17 DURING THE
PENDENCY OF THIS APPLICATION TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO.
07-1729.**

Please accord this application a serial number and a filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A Davis White

Carol A. Lewis White, 33,306
W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc.
551 Paper Mill Road
P.O. Box 9206
Newark, DE 19714-9206
(302) 738-4880

Date: December 21, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)

Applicant(s): Martin Hottner

Docket No.

FA/256

| | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|----------------|
| Application No. <i>(Former Assignee)</i> 10/561887 | Filing Date 12/21/2005 | Examiner | Customer No. 28596 | Group Art Unit |
|---|----------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|----------------|

Invention: Welded Miroseam

I hereby certify that the following correspondence:

Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) Concerning a Submission under 35 U.S.C. 371

(Identify type of correspondence)

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

December 21, 2005

(Date)

Darlene S. McGrath

(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)

(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)

ED753851410US

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Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.